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## NOTES

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THE Department of Superintendence, National Educational Association, will hold its annual meeting in Chicago, February 25, 26, and 27. The Auditorium Hotel has been selected as headquarters, and the meetings will be held in University Hall in the Fine Arts Building.

WE clip the following from the sixtieth report of the Massachusetts State Board of Education :

The high schools of the state number 261, with an attendance of about 40,000. The number of schools that kept the full 10 months required by law was 74; the number that kept from 9½ to 10 months, 124; from 9 to 9½ months, 54; less than 9 months, 9. Many schools that planned for 10 months fell short by two or three days only, and usually because of the closing of school for unanticipated reasons.

D. C. HEATH & Co., publishers, Boston, have in press, for immediate issue, Renan's *Souvenirs d'enfance et de jeunesse*, edited, with introduction and notes, by Irving Babbitt, instructor in French at Harvard University. This distinguished and interesting masterpiece will prove not alone interesting and valuable for purposes of intermediate and advanced classes in college, but to the cultivated general reader as well. It has also been recommended by the "Committee of Twelve of the Modern Language Association" for fourth year reading in high school French courses.

COLUMBIA'S NEW PRESIDENT.—We clip from the *School Journal* the following condensed educational biography. To this we may add a recognition of his vigorous and successful activity in the National Educational Association and as editor of the *Educational Review*.

Professor Butler has been associated with Columbia in one capacity or another for twenty-four years. He entered the college as an undergraduate in 1878, receiving the degree of B.A. in 1882 and that of Ph.D. in 1884. He was made an LL.D. by Syracuse University in 1898, and he has studied in Paris and Berlin. It was in 1886 that he became connected with the faculty of Columbia, having been appointed assistant in philosophy; he has held the chair of philosophy and education since 1890.

In the meantime he has been active in other educational fields; he was the first president of the New York College for the training of teachers, serving in that capacity from 1887 to 1901; he was president of the New Jersey State Board of Education from 1888 to 1890; he was special commissioner from New Jersey to the Paris Exposition in 1899; and he was the first secretary of the college of entrance examination board, the creation of which by the Association of Colleges of the Middle States and Maryland was in a large measure due to his efforts.